

Sponsors for this commission are Carol and Kenneth Anderson

Blue Heron Near the Old Mill Bridge

poem by Raymond Souster

music by Gary Kulesha

Very slow; rubato ♩ = 68

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of three systems of staves. The first system (measures 1-4) features a piano introduction with a *pp* dynamic. The piano part includes complex textures with five-fingered chords and triplets. The second system (measures 5-8) continues the piano introduction. The third system (measures 9-12) begins with the vocal line. The vocal melody is sparse, with lyrics "This blue heron" spread across measures 10, 11, and 12. The piano accompaniment continues with intricate patterns. The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, ties, and dynamic markings.

"Blue Heron near the Old Mill Bridge" is reprinted from *Collected Poems of Raymond Souster* by permission of Oberon Press
music © 2000, Gary Kulesha

© Copyright Assigned 2009, to Counterpoint Music Library Services
Copyright © 2017 Counterpoint Music Library Services

14 *mp*

ef - fort - less - ly man - ag - ing one grace - ful oc -

17 - cur - rence af - ter a - no - ther,

20 first step - ping so stif - fly so care - ful - ly o - ver the

agitato; accel.

23 *mf*

slime - - - slip - per - y rocks of the

cresc.

(con ped.)

25 *f* *b* *o*
 ri - - - - - ver, _____

cresc.

9/16

26 *rit.*

cresc. *f* *dim.*

9/16

30 *a tempo* *mp*

with me, and a fa - ther — and his young son — his on-ly au - di-ence —

p

35

watch - ing — from the ri - ver - bank, — ing the ri - ver - bank —

38 *cresc.*

still fro-zen in ad-mir-a-tion, _____ yet un-nerv-ing him e-nough to

41

sud-den-ly flap both sail wings _____ (e-ven long-er than his slen-der beak)

43 *ff* *dim.* *mp* *p*

once, _____ twice, _____ three _____ times _____ we

46

count _____ be-fore he glides _____ down _____ ten yards